



REVIEWS

BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

THE CODE BOOK: The Science of Secrecy from Ancient Egypt to Quantum Cryptography by Simon Singh

Publisher: Fourth Estate, UK, 1999
ISBN: 1-85702-879-1 (408pp hc)
Price: AUD\$39.95; NZD\$49.95; £16.99;
NLGf66,90; USD\$24.95
Available: **Aust**—Allen & Unwin, tel (02) 8425 0100; **NZ**—Archetype Book Agents, tel (09) 377 3800; **UK**—Fourth Estate Ltd, tel 0171 727 8993; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 1321 380558; **USA**—Doubleday, tel (212) 354 6500

Codes and ciphers have been around for as long as writing, whatever its form, and in *The Code Book* Simon Singh gives an impressive history of this fascinating science of secrecy. Indeed, the use of codes and ciphers has changed the course of history, and Singh charts the evolution of cryptography, encryption and cryptanalysis from as far away as ancient Egypt, Greece, India and Persia, to Renaissance Europe and into the 20th century world wars and beyond.

Simon Singh, who has a PhD in physics and is the author of the bestselling *Fermat's Last Theorem*, brings alive a very complex subject that is a melding of mathematics, linguistics and technology, with due regard to the individuals who have devoted themselves to both codemaking and codebreaking. The variety of cipher systems that has been used is mind-boggling—the Caesar shift cipher, the monoalphabetic and homophonic substitution ciphers, frequency analysis, the Vigenère square and the Great

Cipher of Louix XIV being just a few. Equally fascinating is Singh's description of how Egyptian hieroglyphics and Minoan Linear B writing were decoded, how Navajo codewords were incorporated into a cryptographic lexicon, and how the Germans' Enigma system was cracked by Alan Turing and others during World War II.

Taking his research into our Information Age, Singh considers the technology of quantum cryptography, the challenges to privacy, and the often eccentric individuals who continue striving to create the ultimate code—and then break it. A rewarding read, requiring patience to work through.

CROP CIRCLES: The Greatest Mystery of Modern Times by Lucy Pringle

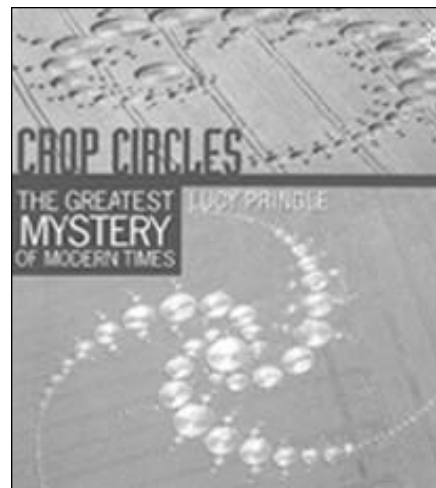
Publisher: Thorsons, UK, 1999
ISBN: 0-7225-3855-3 (144pp hc)
Price: AUD\$39.95; NZD\$44.95; £16.99;
NLGf66,90; USD\$27.00
Available: **Aust/NZ/UK/USA**—Harper Collins/Thorsons; **Europe**—NEXUS Office

Many of the stunning aerial photographs of crop circles that we have seen over the last ten years have been taken by Lucy Pringle. During that time she has also been conducting research on the ground, interviewing people about their experiences in the mysterious crop formations and exploring the associated electromagnetic forces.

Thus her book, *Crop Circles: The Greatest Mystery of Modern Times*, is not only a rich visual presentation (in b&w with a large colour section) but a record of the variety of effects experienced and observed in the field, as it were. The reported effects have been both beneficial and detrimental, and include physical and emotional effects,

consciousness changes, effects on animals, equipment failures, strange synchronicities and other anomalies. The testimony of eye-witnesses who report on their crop circle experiences going back to the 1930s and 1940s is compelling, as is that from people who have seen crop circles being created in the presence of whirlwinds and "luminosities". And while Pringle follows the scientific trail, being involved in the analysis of seeds taken from affected crops, she reports on others who have actually ingested the grain—and not without ill effects.

Pringle debunks the hoaxers, yet in concluding she poses many paranormal possibilities. Are the circles "gateways" to other dimensions? Are they a natural phenomenon occurring on ley lines and aided by atmospheric conditions? Are they of non-human, or even extraterrestrial origin? We are asked to be open-minded about this "greatest mystery of modern times".



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EDEN IN THE EAST

by Stephen Oppenheimer

Publisher: Phoenix, UK, 1999

ISBN: 0-75380-679-7 (381pp pb)

Price: AUD\$19.95; NZD\$24.95; £8.99;

NLGf35,90; CAD\$14.99

Available: **Aust**—Allen & Unwin, tel (02)

8425 0100; **NZ**—Hodder Moa Beckett, tel

(09) 478 1000; **UK**—Orion Books, tel

01903 721596; **Europe**—NEXUS Office;

USA—Trafalgar Square Publishing, tel

(802) 457 1911, fax (802) 457 1913

The cradle of Western civilisation was not in Mesopotamia or India, but in the drowned Southeast Asian continent, argues Stephen Oppenheimer, a medical doctor who has spent the last 20 years working in paediatrics in the Far East and Pacific. Dr Oppenheimer has studied the unique genetic mutations that appear to be markers for the Indo-Pacific migrations that followed a series of floods at the end of the last ice age.

Around 20,000 to 18,000 years ago, Southeast Asia formed a continent twice the size of India. Oppenheimer draws on geological evidence that suggests that three sudden ice-melts occurred around 14,000, 11,500 and 8,000 years ago, resulting in rapid flooding and rising sea levels, forcing the inhabitants of Sundaland (now the Sunda shelf) to distant, safer ground.

Oppenheimer proposes that survivors, in successive waves, took with them their extant skills in language, agriculture, pottery, astronomy, navigation and architecture and dispersed them in Indochina, India, Mesopotamia and the Pacific. Referring to

grinding stones in the Solomon Islands dated to 26,000 years ago, taro cultivation in Indonesia c. 15,000 years ago, pottery-making in Japan 12,500 years ago and rice domestication in the Malay Peninsula 9,000 years ago, he argues for the existence of a prediluvial culture that thrived while much of the north was engulfed in glaciers. When it met its demise, it was these Sundaland survivors who passed on the first creation and flood stories in the west and east, where they were preserved in local mythologies.

Oppenheimer's book is a must-read for its radically different perspective on prehistory.

PROPHECY & PREDICTION: THREAT OR WARNING?

by Ronnie Burns

Publisher: P&P Publishing, Aust, 1999

ISBN: 0-646-38109-1 (266pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$24.95 + \$5.00 p&h in Aust;

overseas orders, visit website

Available: **Australia**—Prophecy & Prediction Publishing Co., Locked Bag 8, Devonport, Tas 7310, tel 1800 999959 (in Aust), fax +61 3 6492 1288, website www.prophecyandprediction.com

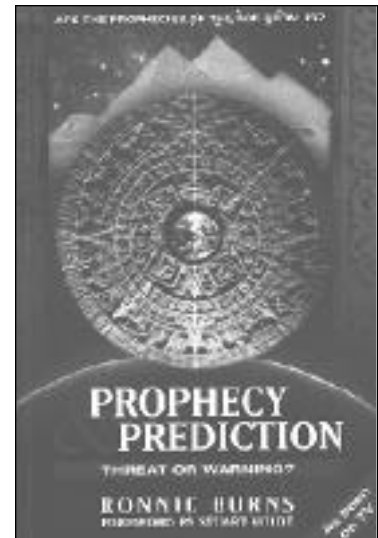
If you're reading this now, you've managed to get through the year 2000 turnaround, but in latter-day prophecy lore there are further milestones to anticipate, particularly regarding so-called Earth changes. That the planet's climate and weather are going through unusual changes is indisputable; but whether these are a lead-up to catastrophic Earth changes scenarios as foreseen by well-known prophets and futurists is open to question—unless they happen, of course!

Prophecy & Prediction: Threat or Warning? is the book that takes over from

where Ronnie Burns' TV documentary of the same name left off. It includes snippets of interviews not included in the program from a variety of commentators on Earth changes prophecies, including Edgar Evans Cayce, Adrian Gilbert, Edmund Harold, Malcolm Jagamara, Tom Kay, Peter Lemesurier, Gordon-Michael Scallion, Moira Timms and Stuart Wilde (who contributes a rousing foreword), as well as prophecies from Nostradamus and Mother Shipton.

The interviews are interspersed under various headings, such as the Great Pyramid and Sphinx, anticipated Earth changes affecting the San Andreas fault and Pacific Rim of Fire, and Hopi Indian and Maya prophecies, and they include both disturbing and hopeful messages for the future.

Amidst it all, Burns remains adamant that any prophesied Golden Age is in our hands.





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BOOKS

VIOLENT WEATHER PREDICTIONS 2000–2001: Countdown to Cataclysm by Jennifer Lawson

Publisher: Llewellyn, USA, 1999
ISBN: 1-56718-414-6 (183pp pb)
Price: AUD\$23.00 inc. p&h; NZD\$28.95;
£7.99; NLGf23,90; USD\$9.95
Available: **Aust**—NEXUS Magazine, tel
(07) 5442 9280; **NZ/Europe**—NEXUS
offices; **UK**—Airlift Book Co., tel 0181 804
0400; **USA**—Llewellyn Publications, tel
(612) 291 1970, www.llewellyn.com

No, you're not imagining it: the world's weather *is* getting markedly worse, and will continue getting worse in 2000 and 2001 according to long-range weather forecaster Jennifer Lawson, who has had a remarkable track record since she began publishing her astrometeorological predictions in 1985 (see interview in this issue).

In her book, *Violent Weather Predictions 2000–2001*, Lawson includes specific dates and places all over the globe where major disasters can be expected—everything from fierce storms and floods, hurricanes and tornadoes to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. In predicting what type of event will strike which place when, Lawson studies the angular relationships between the Sun, Moon and planets, and thus the electromagnetic (not gravitational) forces that these bodies can exert upon one other.

Particularly important are the celestial bodies' declination points—the angular distance north or south of the equator. For example, when two or more of the slower-moving outer planets are grouped at their most

southerly declination point, the northern hemisphere winter will be severely cold and the summer much cooler than normal.

Moreover, eclipse points can be triggered by planets months down the line: e.g., the 11 August 1999 eclipse point will be triggered in early May 2000—a time when not only destructive floods are predicted, but a catastrophic earthquake, quite likely affecting northern California. The solar cycle maximum, expected to peak by May 2000, will provide a 'double whammy' in the equation.

This is one book that we at NEXUS will be keeping handy over the next two years.

KEEPERS OF THE SECRETS by Robert Sibley

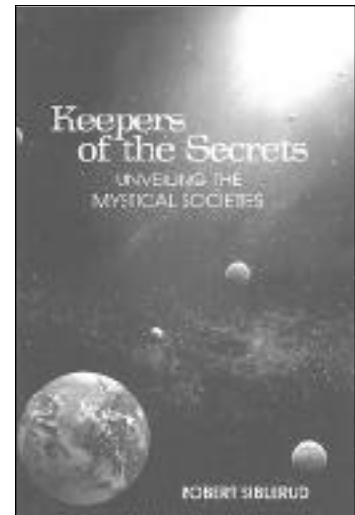
Publisher: Sacred Science, USA, 1999
ISBN: 0-9666856-1-X (270pp tpb)
Price: £12.95; NLGf35,90; USD\$14.95
Available: **UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices;
USA—Sacred Science Publications, 9435
Olsen Court, Wellington, Colorado 80549,
tel (970) 568 7323, e-mail SacScience
@aol.com; AUP, tel (815) 253 6390

Mystical societies throughout the ages have had a profound effect on the progress of civilisation but have also had to be secret, if not go underground, in order to escape persecution and to survive. What many of these groups have had in common, as author Robert Sibley points out, is a set of spiritual beliefs and rituals that are contradictory to the prevailing orthodoxy.

Sibley is a co-founder of a group called the International Association for New Science, which is dedicated to breaking outmoded paradigms of knowledge. This book, *Keepers of the Secrets*, is the second in his so-called Sacred Science Chronicles series. Through his books, Sibley aims for a syn-

thesis of science and religion, based on the precept that they both operate under the same universal laws. He points out how religions have generally failed to make sense of the physical and spiritual realms and certainly haven't satisfied the yearnings of those seeking expanded spiritual truth.

Enter the secret, mystical societies, which over the millennia have protected sacred knowledge and prevented it from getting into the 'wrong' hands. The traditions covered here are Shamanism, Druidism, the Essenes, Gnosticism, the Kabbala, Alchemy, Magic, Hermeticism, Witchcraft, Sufism, Rosicrucianism and Freemasonry. Sibley summarises the key points of their histories and spiritual philosophies/practices on their unique paths to truth and perfection. While his coverage is necessarily only so detailed, he helps demystify subjects that were once considered inaccessible in the public realm.



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BOOKS

UNIVERSE OF WAVES

by Ross Wiseman

Publisher: Discovery Press, NZ, 1999

ISBN: 0-473-05402-7 (384pp tpb)

Price: NZD\$39.95 + p&h in NZ; foreign

orders, NZD\$49.95 inc. p&h

Available: **New Zealand**—NZ orders, NEXUS Office, tel (09) 403 8193; foreign orders, Discovery Press, 22 Mountain Rd, Henderson Valley, Auckland 8, tel +64 9 836 0772, fax +64 9 837 6364

Our universe is a universe of waves, and wave vibrations are the cause of it all, theorises Ross Wiseman. But his theory encompasses more than just physics, to include the biological and social sciences as well.

Some of this Wiseman touches on in his earlier book, *Pre-Tasman Explorers*, where he introduces his theory of socio-economic cycles (see 5/05). Here, in *Universe of Waves*, these are given more detailed treatment under the moniker of "cosmic cycles", and require some understanding of zodiacal traits in order to grasp and appreciate—but they are so broad as to touch on grand evolutionary cycles in geological and biological terms, and even take in alien influence.

Deferring to the ancient Greek philosophers Plato and Aristotle and also Descartes—the three of whom Wiseman considers had the best scientific grasp on the concept of the soul—he applies the wave principle to the soul "fundamentals", and from there makes a wholehearted attempt at explaining basic human experience and consciousness.

None of this makes much sense without delving into Wiseman's description of the wave principle, aka the creative principle,

symbolised in the atomic structure of the diamond. As he rather cutely puts it, "each carbon atom [of the diamond] is a baby tetrahedron". Then there's behavioural mathematics, allowing wave models to be constructed that signify previously unidentified forces represented by a series of non-regular polyhedra which correspond with the signs of the zodiac! Wiseman's approach offers a new twist on the meaning of life, the universe and everything.

NOT BY FIRE BUT BY ICE

by Robert W. Felix

Publisher: Sugarhouse Publishing, 2000

ISBN: 0-9648746-8-7 (254pp tpb)

Price: USD\$15.95 inc. p&h in USA; over-

seas airmail, add USD\$9.00; NLGf38,90

Available: **USA**—Sugarhouse Publishing,

PO Box 435, Bellevue, WA 98009-0435,

tel (425) 451 9311, website [http://](http://members.aol.com/iceagenow/)

members.aol.com/iceagenow/; **Europe**—

NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)1321 380558

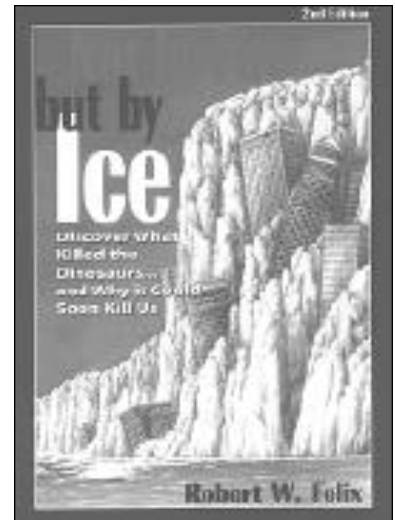
Forget global warming: the planet could be engulfed in an ice age any day, and it could happen almost overnight. This is the conclusion of architect turned independent researcher Robert Felix, who has devoted most of the 1990s to researching a phenomenon that comes around like clockwork every 11,500 years. His well-written and extensively documented book, *Not by Fire but by Ice*, presents a believable argument which is indeed chilling in its implications.

Apart from solar and galactic cycles, Felix sees two major triggers for ice ages: magnetic field reversals and underwater volcanism. Scientists don't dispute that the Earth's magnetic field is in a phase of weakening—which is exactly what has been recorded in ice core and rock samples prior to sudden

reversals and the onset of ice ages in the past. Felix argues that the planet could undergo such a reversal imminently.

As for underwater volcanoes, with many thousands of them active at any one time (80% of them are underwater), such large injections of heat may be enough to change ocean temperatures, trigger El Niño events and dramatically affect global weather systems. The moisture from warmer seas, condensing as rain, could at the right time—particularly during a polarity reversal—produce floods of biblical proportions. But if all that precipitation fell in winter, the result would be unimaginable amounts of snow—enough to bury much of the northern hemisphere in ice and herald a new ice age.

The kinds of events Felix describes are catastrophic, and in the past have resulted in mass extinctions, dinosaurs included. He warns that this could be our fate, too.





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BOOKS

THE CHRIST CONSPIRACY: The Greatest Story Ever Sold by Acharya S

Publisher: AUP, Kempton, IL, USA, 1999
ISBN: 0-75380-679-7 (381pp pb)
Price: AUD\$30.00 inc. p&h; NZD\$32.95;
£12.95; NLGf36,90; USD\$14.99
Available: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe**— NEXUS
offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, tel
(815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300,
e-mail auphq@frontiernet.net

In this controversial book, *The Christ Conspiracy*, linguist/historian/archaeologist Acharya S examines historical records and commentaries through the centuries and concludes there is no evidence for the existence of an historical Jesus Christ.

Acharya S (*acharya* means "teacher", but we don't know her real name) argues that the gospel stories of Jesus are based on myth built on top of millennia of myth, and were purpose-written by members of certain secret mystery schools to consolidate the numerous religions, cults and sects of the Roman Empire into one state religion—which was then promulgated through the centuries through "forgery, fraud and force".

Millions of people in the last two millennia have met their sad demise at the hands of Christianity—more so than under any other religion, she figures. Indeed, contrary to what we are told about the rapid spread of Christianity, the movement was minuscule even by the mid-3rd century, and most "conversions" for centuries were "by the sword". How's that for a religion based on love and compassion, one that supposedly ended bar-

barism and human sacrifice? Yet the very idea of a crucified deity, in the form of Jesus Christ, was borrowed from much more ancient "sun god" and "saviour god" traditions as found in Egypt and India.

Acharya S's stance is not new; the "mythicist" school, which started to flourish a couple of hundred years ago, has already established erudite arguments for "the Christ conspiracy". Yet her passionate, intensively researched work is powered by her desire to expose the deceptions of the religion business and the horrors that blind faith can bring. Her book is bound to stir emotions.

ASTRAL DYNAMICS

by Robert Bruce

Publisher: Hampton Roads, USA, 1999
ISBN: 1-57174-143-7 (560pp tpb)
Price: AUD\$36.95; NZD\$46.95; £13.99;
NLGf40,90; USD\$16.95

Available: **Aust**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9888 0111; **Aust/NZ/Europe**— NEXUS offices;
UK—Airlift Book Co., tel 0181 804 0400;
USA—Hampton Roads, tel (804) 296 2772, website www.hrpub.com

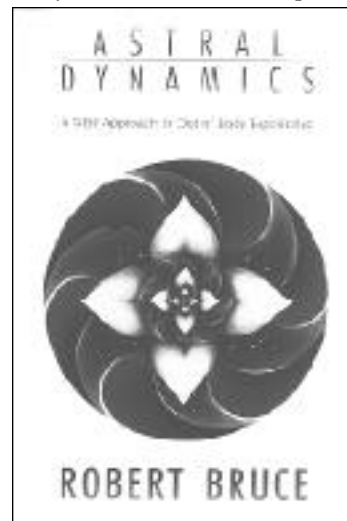
If you're looking for a guidebook that conveys the idea of the vastness of the astral territory that can be covered, together with the theoretical and practical bases for how it can be explored, then you can't go wrong with *Astral Dynamics* by Robert Bruce, an Australian-based mystic, healer, metaphysical researcher and teacher.

Apart from being eminently well written, it's a practical book for novices and experienced practitioners alike. Bruce describes a shortened version of his New Energy Ways (NEW) system of bioenergetic manipulation and development, based on his 25 years of personal research and teaching. It wasn't

until after he'd developed his system that he discovered the similarities it has with Eastern bioenergetics systems—this being because the human energy body *is* what it is and hasn't changed in thousands of years!

The ability to raise and manipulate personal energy is essential for the out-of-body experience, and Bruce's techniques help in utilising this ability in generating the "projected double". Step by step, Bruce guides the reader through the elements of projection (mind-splits, astral sight), new energy ways (imagination vs visualisation, stimulating primary energy centres), core skills (deep physical relaxation) and projection techniques. He explains how the akashic records can be accessed and gives advice on dealing with strange astral phenomena.

This shining torch of a guidebook is written with the integrity and insight of someone who truly knows and wants to impart.



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BOOKS

MAURY ISLAND UFO: The Crisman Conspiracy

by Kenn Thomas

Publisher: IllumiNet Press, USA, 1999
ISBN: 1-881532-19-4 (288pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$28.00 inc. p&h; NZD\$14.95;
£10.95; NLGf36,90; USD\$14.95

Available: **Aust/NZ/Europe**—NEXUS
offices; **UK**—Counter Productions, tel
0171 274 9009; **USA**—Adventures
Unlimited, tel (815) 253 6390

The post-war UFO era did not begin with pilot Kenneth Arnold's famous sighting of unidentified craft in formation over the Cascade Mountains, but three days earlier, on 21 June 1947, over nearby Maury Island in Puget Sound near Tacoma, Washington. One Harold Dahl, on a patrol boat recovering logs, allegedly observed and filmed six doughnut-shaped craft, one of which was in trouble, lost altitude and spewed black and white metallic substances into the bay, burning his son's arm and killing his dog. Two days later, Dahl's associate Fred Crisman visited the site, viewed the debris and had his own UFO sighting, so he claimed.



These incidents have been generally regarded as hoaxes in UFO lore, but, as Kenn Thomas describes in *Maury Island UFO*, the players and the associated circumstances warrant further analysis. Who was the mysterious Man in Black who visited Dahl the day after his sighting? And why did the Air Force send two investigators to interview eyewitnesses, only to dismiss their deaths in a plane crash and henceforth clamp down on official UFO investigations?

Well, Thomas doesn't have all the answers (many witnesses are now dead), but, drawing on FBI and Air Force documents and his

own interviews with eyewitnesses, he convinces us that weird things did indeed happen at Maury Island. The connections he makes between Crisman's intelligence background and various conspiracy-type events (e.g., the JFK assassination) in ensuing decades take this book well beyond the bounds of ufology, but without necessarily resolving their relationship to the original event. With extensive footnotes and appendices (occupying nearly half the pages), Thomas's book is the most definitive Maury Island account yet available.

THE ATLANTIS CONNECTION

by W. T. Samsel

Publisher: Starfire Publishing, USA, 1998
ISBN: 0-9666607-0-6 (220pp tpb)

Price: USD\$14.95 + \$3.00 p&h; overseas
airmail, add USD\$8.00; NLGf36,90

Available: **USA**—The Atlantis Connection,
135 Pony Soldier Rd, Sedona, AZ 86336,
tel +1 (520) 203 0703, website
www.wtsam.com; **Europe**—NEXUS
Office, tel +31 1321 380558

The search for the lost continent of Atlantis has always had "fringe" status in science and academia, but much popular appeal. *The Atlantis Connection* is not out to convert the sceptics (it won't; its contents are of the channelled variety), but to inspire seekers after ancient truth and wisdom.

What if *you* underwent a past-life regression and, soon after, began channelling messages from an unexplained source? This is what author W. T. Samsel claims happened to him in 1988 when he started receiving automatic-writing messages from an entity named Tiagorrah, a high-caste Atlantean from Poseidon with a vitally important message for humanity (but don't they all have one?!). So what would you do? Dismiss it? After his life-changing experiences, Samsel opted to spread the word to the world.

Apparently, says Tiagorrah, we are poised to repeat the same mistakes that led to the demise of the Atlanteans—much of these revolving around improper use of technology and disregard for nature and universal laws. Amidst his warnings, Tiagorrah enlightens Samsel to "our relations from the stars" and links with Egypt, Atlantean history, culture, religion, ritual and technology (including air and space craft), the three cataclysms of Atlantis, and more. Even in these legendary times, rogue Atlanteans allegedly used mind-control technology to subdue populations—and Tiagorrah says today's New World Order is preparing for the encore on a stage set up long, long ago.

As Samsel says, it's up to the reader to determine how valid and useful this information is in an individual sense—and, ultimately, for the entire human collective.



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BOOKS

THE PATH OF THE POLE

by Charles Hapgood

Publisher: Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 1999

ISBN: 0-932813-71-2 (413pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$35.00 inc. p&h; NZD\$34.95;

£15.50 inc. p&h; NLGf40.90; USD\$16.95

Available: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe**— NEXUS

offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, tel

(815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300,

e-mail auphq@frontiernet.net

Readers who have appreciated all the articles and reviews we've published on geological cataclysms, pole shifts and the demise of Atlantis will be pleased to know that one of the sourcebooks for postmodern thinking in these areas has been reprinted. This is Charles Hapgood's *The Path of the Pole*, first published in 1958 and revised in 1970, and it is the book containing the oft-quoted foreword in which Dr Albert Einstein comments on the validity of the author's theory of crustal displacement.



According to Hapgood (whose previous book, *Earth's Shifting Crust*, caused a stir, as did his *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings*), the North Pole has occupied three different positions in the last 100,000 years, the last change occurring between only 18,000 and 12,000 years ago. He presents evidence, based on geomagnetism and radioactive dating, that the last crustal shift took place at the end of the last ice age and caused an improvement in climate. In view of recent discoveries about magnetic field reversals that have affected the polarity of the Earth's crust over the aeons, Hapgood's theories are gaining more attention from academia.

In this landmark book, Hapgood postulates why the ice ages and climatic changes have

not been adequately explained, and he examines the behaviour of the last great ice sheet, polar changes, the shaping of the Earth's surface features, the extinction of the mammoths and the problems with the fossil record. Full of hard-core scientific analysis and referencing, Hapgood's thesis demands that we ask not just *if* a major cataclysmic event will happen again, but *when*.

IN THE DOMAIN OF THE LAKE MONSTERS

by John Kirk

Publisher: Key Porter Books, 1998

ISBN: 1-55263-010-2 (303pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$24.95; NZD\$24.95; £n/a;

NLGf43.90; CAD\$24.99

Available: **Aust/NZ**— UniReps, tel +61 (0)2 9664 0999, e-mail info.press@unsw.edu.au; **UK**—Gazelle Book Service, tel

01524 68765; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel

+31 1321 380558; **Canada**—Key Porter

Books, tel (416) 213 1919, 1800 387

0172, website www.keyporter.com

The idea that ancient prehistoric creatures still exist in land-locked lakes and in rivers and seas continues to captivate the public imagination. As Canadian cryptozoology researcher John Kirk knows all too well, serious investigators have to sort through the frauds, hoaxes and myths to get close to the truth, but there are sufficient credible eyewitness accounts from around the world that suggest that these and all sorts of anomalous animals do in fact exist. Occasionally these elusive creatures are filmed or photographed, but orthodox science won't acknowledge their existence until physical specimens are obtained.

For his book, *In the Domain of the Lake Monsters*, Kirk records his own experiences in search of "Ogopogo"—Canada's answer to Scotland's "Nessie", that has a long history of sightings in Okanagan Lake, British Columbia. His two brief glimpses of the famed creature in the late 1980s spurred him on to investigate the global "lake monster" phenomenon. The creature most often described very closely fits the picture of a plesiosaur—that finned, large-bodied, long-necked relic of the dinosaur age—and it has been sighted all over Canada and much of the United States, in Ireland and Scotland, Europe and Scandinavia, Central and South America, Africa, Asia and Australasia.

Kirk has an engaging style, and the story of his expeditions in Canada and Scotland, his media experiences and his evidence-gathering and interviewing makes for an exciting read. If only he could have included some photos, video stills or eyewitness drawings as an aid to visualisation.

REVIEWS



VIDEO

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

CANCER: TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES?

with Sifu Gregory James Crockett

Producer: Gorilla Hill Moving Pictures, Australia, 1999 (PAL/VHS, 2hrs 45mins)
Price: AUD\$45.00 inc. p&h in Aust; overseas orders, add AUD\$10.00 airmail p&h
Available: **Australia**—The Gorilla Hill Project, PO Box 23, Tyalgum, NSW 2484, tel/fax +61 2 6679 3457, website www.gorillahill.org.au

Sifu Gregory James Crockett is one of the growing number of people who have successfully cured themselves of cancer. Like most of these people, Gregory is obviously filled with a passion to "tell the world"—and why not!

Thus was born the Gorilla Hill Project, a multi-faceted, multi-million-dollar venture that aims to "make a positive and humanitarian influence on our society". This video is but the first in a series of projects which aim to inform, educate and enlighten people, especially those suffering from disease.

This first video certainly lifts the lid on the cancer industry and its many (vested-interest) proponents. It is the type of video I would give to someone who has recently discovered they have cancer or a similar illness. The scope of information presented would make most people think twice before opting for the usual drug/surgery/radiation treatments. It includes the success rates (or lack of) of these standard medical procedures, and offers solutions of a non-toxic and health-improving nature.

Sifu Gregory James Crockett, OMD, MD, also happens to be a Master Physician of Natural Medicine and has been involved in the practice and research of medicine for 18 years. Using natural medicine, he successfully overcame his own health challenges, including severe back injury, epilepsy and cancer. He claims to have gathered over 3,500 testimonials from his thousands of satisfied patients over the past 18 years.

In an age when our sickness represents profits for some of the world's largest companies, it is clear for those with eyes to see that there is no financial incentive to come up with any cures, just fixes. And the fixes themselves most often generate further illness, thus perpetuating illness for us and profits for them.

The Gorilla Hill Project is still in its infancy, so if you are looking for like-minded visionaries and achievers situated in one of the most picturesque parts of Australia, I would suggest you give them a call.

CD-ROM

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

REALM OF THE HOLY GRAIL

Volume One: A Quest for True Grail Tradition

by Laurence Gardner and Adrian Wagner

Producer: Multi MediaQuest International, UK, 1999

Price: AUD\$65.00 inc. p&h in Australia; NZD\$/a; NLGfn/a; £24.95 inc p&h in UK (overseas orders, add £2.50 p&h)

Available: **Aust/NZ/Eur**—NEXUS offices; **UK/USA**—MediaQuest Int'l Ltd, Dyfed, Wales, UK, tel +44 1239 710594, fax +44 1239 711343, www.mediaquest.co.uk

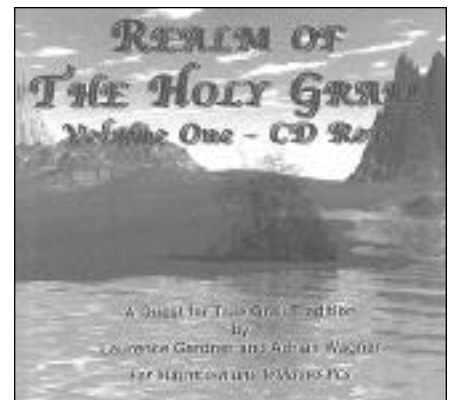
Computer Requirements:

Macintosh-32Mb RAM (min); 68040 processor or above; MacOS 7 or above; PC-32Mb RAM (min); Windows 95/98/NT; Pentium recommended; Sound Blaster compatible sound card.

This is a simple-to-access, comprehensive collection of the works and research of Chevaliers Laurence Gardner and Adrian Wagner. Upon launching the main program, you are given an easy-to-follow menu into either *The Bloodline of the Holy Grail* or *Genesis of the Grail Kings*.

Each of these two sections has a similar list of options, as follows: a talk given by Sir Laurence Gardner (which you can also read as he speaks); a talk given by Adrian Wagner; an interview with Sir Laurence (from the Laura Lee radio show), covering topics such as the Essenes, the dynasty of Jesus, the Celtic Church, Princess Diana, Freemasonry, etc; a display of paintings from Entropic Fine Art; and links to Internet sites and stores (for online ordering).

Finally, this *Realm of the Holy Grail* CD-ROM gives you access to the two related music CDs composed and produced by Chev. Adrian Wagner: *Holy Spirit and the Holy Grail* and *Genesis of the Grail Kings*.





REVIEWS

MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

CELESTIAL MOZART: For Relaxation by Gerald Jay Markoe

Producer: Gerald Jay Markoe for Astromusic, Boqueron, PR, USA, 1999 (63mins)
Distributor: **USA**—Astromusic, PO Box 1258, Boqueron, PR 00622, www.astromusic.com

Gerald Jay Markoe has been involved in inspirational music since the 1980s and has produced several relaxation music classics, two being *Music from the Pleiades* and *Music of the Angels*. Both of these topped the ambient charts when released, and today are considered new-age classics. Here he performs a number of Mozart's well-known concertos, including No. 21 (used as the theme music for *Elvira Madigan*). All are slow and gorgeously orchestrated, and work on the cellular level by operating in the 28 to 60 beats-per-minute cycle. Brilliantly therapeutic for reprogramming the body.

ONE TRUTH

by Omar Faruk Tekbilek

Producer: Yuval Ron for Hearts of Space, San Francisco, USA, 1999 (65mins)
Distributors: **Australia**—MRA Ent'ment, tel (07) 3849 6020; **USA**—Hearts of Space, tel (415) 331 3200, www.hos.com

Omar Faruk Tekbilek is a musician of genius who has a string of albums that offer sacred music of the Middle East to world audiences. In *One Truth*, he successfully brings the passion and poetry of Sufi mysticism to the studio, melding devotional lyrics and traditional instruments with modern technologies. Following his *Crescent Moon* album (NEXUS 6/03), this is a move into the sounds of the burning rhythms and intensities of Sufism. A superb window into the devotional and love songs of Islam.

TRIP TO THE SUN

by Tracy Scott Silverman

Producer: Tracy Scott Silverman for Windham Hill, USA, 1999 (42mins)
Distributor: **Aust**—BMG Distribution, tel (02) 9900 7888; **USA**—BMG Distribution, tel (212) 930 4942, www.windham.com

Tracy Silverman is a classically trained violinist who has moved in rock, big band, jazz and world music fields, making his reputation with the Turtle Island String Quartet in the 1990s. The opening track on *Trip to the Sun* is a most moving, mesmerising version of George Harrison's "Here Comes the Sun". It's followed by several of his own works, a version of Jimi Hendrix's

"A Mermaid I Should Turn To Be" and several collaborations with ambience master Terry Riley. A must-have, unique, original album, worth it for the Harrison track alone.

CHO KU REI

by Weave

Producer: Weave for Etherean Music, USA, 1999 (59mins)

Distributor: **USA**—Etherean Music, tel 1888.384 3732, fax (303) 985 0292

If you've been looking for an album to aid your healing sessions or increase relaxation time at home, or if you just want to enjoy the sacred sounds of the Reiki healing process, then *Cho Ku Rei* is it. The album is from Reiki master Weave, using the first of the five Reiki symbols, the Cho Ku Rei.

This symbol increases healing energy (counter-clockwise) and can be used either to give energy to a specific area or to release blocked energy. Cho Ku Rei is the goddess energy within all. A sublime album.

ROUTES: 20 YEARS OF ESSENTIAL FOLK ROOTS & WORLD MUSIC

Producer: Ian Anderson for Nascente Music, UK, 1999 (2CDs, 153mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—Festival Records, tel (02) 9955 8000; **UK**—Nascente Music, London, website www.vci.co.uk

The magazine *Folk Roots* has been lovingly edited by Ian Anderson in the UK for the last two decades, and it's he who is behind this *Routes* compilation and companion volume *Roots*, which covers the music of Britain, Ireland and North America. This album embraces samples from the entire world music genre, bringing them together in one place. It has all your favourites, including Maryam Mursal, Youssou N'Dour, Ali Farka Toure, Baaba Maal, Buena Vista Social Club, Tarika, and many more. With two-and-a-half hours of some of the best world music of the last two decades, this is an exciting addition to your collection.

